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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Health Departments Asks Passengers of Egypt Nile River Cruise to Self-Quarantine, Contact Local Health Department

HOUSTON - Harris County Public Health (HCPH), Houston Health Department, and Fort Bend County Health and Human Services ask any local residents who recently traveled to Egypt and took a Nile River cruise to immediately self-quarantine for 14 days and contact their local health department.

On March 5, 2020 the M.S. A'sara cruise traveling to and from Aswan, Egypt was quarantined due to COVID-19 exposure. Local health department officials are proactively seeking M.S. A'sara passengers, from the Greater Houston area, who traveled on the cruise line from February 12 to March 5, 2020 because they may have been exposed to COVID-19 (*only passengers on the M.S. A'sara cruise need to contact their local health department*).

If you or your family traveled on the M.S. A'sara cruise (traveling to and from Aswan, Egypt) during the dates in question, please self-quarantine and contact your local health department at:

For Harris County Residents:

Harris County Public Health (HCPH)
www.hcphtx.org/COVID-19
www.ReadyHarris.org
713-439-6000*

**This number is staffed 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.*

For City of Houston Residents:

Houston Health Department
www.HoustonHealth.org
www.HoustonEmergency.org
832-393-4220*

**This number is currently only for M.S. A'sara cruise passengers and will be staffed 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.*

For Fort Bend County Residents:

Fort Bend County Health & Human Services
www.fbchealth.org/ncov
281-633-7795*

**This number is Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm*

M.S. A'sara cruise passengers and anyone who recently traveled to and from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) identified high risk areas](#) who is experiencing fever, cough or shortness of breath must stay home, away from other people, and contact their health provider immediately (call before going). Healthcare providers will work with local public health departments to determine if COVID-19 testing is needed. People over 60 and those with chronic health condition are at highest risk for serious COVID-19 illness.

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HCPH is the local public health agency for the Harris County, Texas jurisdiction. It provides a wide variety of public health activities and services aimed at improving the health and well-being of the Harris County community.

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www.hcphtx.org